

VAU.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

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We invite any media interested in interviewing our VA staff to learn more about care and services to contact our Public Affairs Officer at 989-497-2500, extension 13010 or e-mail tara.scheuer@va.gov

VA Announces New Program Addressing Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

Over one in 3 women and one in 4 men experience intimate partner abuse or violence, and for Veterans those numbers are even higher. Veterans are more likely to have been exposed to traumatic and stressful experiences that may increase risk of experiencing and/or using aggression in partner relationships.

VA's Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) helps Veterans and their families who are impacted by physical, emotional, and sexual violence regardless of whether it has happened once or many times. VA's IPVAP is committed to helping Veterans, their partners, and VA staff who are impacted by IPV.

"We are excited to begin offering treatment and support for those who use and those who experience violence," stated Kimberly Sawatzki, our IPVAP Coordinator. "Our continuum of care approach will include an exciting program called Strength at Home (SAH), which was developed specifically for Veterans and active-duty military. Additionally, this evidence-based, trauma-informed treatment is also appropriate for Veterans who are justice-involved due to domestic violence related charges. SAH is both a treatment and prevention program, designed to enhance relationships and prevent problems from escalating to violence and abuse."

For more information about Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Programming, please contact Kimberly Sawatzki, IPVAP Coordinator, at 989-497-2500, extension 13632 or learn more at: [Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program \(IPVAP\) - VHA Social Work](#)

The Aleda E. Lutz VAMC in Saginaw, Michigan operates an 81-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation Community Living Center. It provides care to over 38,263 Veterans in a 35-county geographic area, from mid-Michigan to the Mackinac Bridge. Veterans also receive care at one of our nine VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics located throughout Michigan. More information about this VA can be found at www.saginaw.va.gov.

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